

Please stop to consider the negative effect on the quality of print journalism that Cross-Ownership of television and newspaper companies would almost certainly facilitate.

If all major public voices are owned by the very privileged few large companies, who might be left to question the stranglehold of those companies on the free flow of information?

The beloved market economy depends upon free and open competition, as democracy depends upon free and open flow of ideas. As control of mass media becomes consolidated, both the market and democracy suffer from the tendency of the powerful central consortium to prefer its own interest, i.e. its bottom line, to the public interest in straight-talk truth.

Please remember the constitution, the bill of rights, and our forefathers' foundational principles as you consider lifting this regulation against cross-ownership. Democracy depends upon a free flow of information and ideas, which flow requires that more than just a very few hands have access to the spigot.

Thank you for your consideration.

yours very truly  
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